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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA [US/US]; 3160 Chestnut Street, Suite 200, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6283 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): HATZIGEORGIOU, Artemis, G. [US/US]; 3160 Chestnut Street, Suite 200, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6283 (US). MOURELATOS, Zissimos [US/US]; 3160 Chestnut Street, Suite 200, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6283 (US).

(74) Agent: DELUCA, Mark; Cozen O'Connor, 1900 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 (US).

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(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR IDENTIFYING MICRO-RNA TARGETS AND SYNTHESIZING NOVEL MICRO-RNAs AND USES OF THE SAME

(57) Abstract: Method of identifying a microRNA-recognition element and of generating microRNAs are disclosed. System and computer programs for performing such methods are disclosed. Recombinant nucleic acid molecule comprising a heterologous coding sequences and one or more MREs are also disclosed as are isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising one or more MRE sequences and being free of a coding sequence operably linked to regulatory elements. MicroRNA generated by a methods of the invention and the use of the microRNAs to downregulate gene expression are disclosed.

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